U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region II

First and Final Pollution Report

I. HEADING

Date: August 03, 2004
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Subject: Bayonne Barrel and Drum Site, Newark, Essex County, New Jersey

POLREP No: Thirty-three (33), First and Final POLREP (PRP action)

II. BACKGROUND

Site Number: 9J
Response Authority: CERCLA
NPL Status: Non-NPL
CERCLIS No: NJD009871401
Action Memorandum and Start date: Verbal Authorization: 7-14-94
Action Memorandum (RV-1): 09-02-94
Action Memorandum (RV-2): 01-27-95
Completion Date (CERCLA funded): 02-05-1997

Administrative Order on Consent (soil sampling) Signed: 09-30-1996
Completion Date (PRP funded): 01-09-1997

Administrative Order on Consent (asbestos removal, building Demolition) 12-27-03
Completion Date (PRP funded): on-going

III. INCIDENT INFORMATION

See proceeding POLREPs (POLREPs 1 - 32) for details.

IV. REMOVAL INFORMATION

A. Actions Taken

Under an Administrative Order on Consent, CERCLA Docket No. 02-2004-2006, eleven (11) respondents have conducted the following actions:

Eighty-one (81) truck loads, approximately 2,038 tons, of illegally disposed of municipal solid waste and construction/demolition debris have been removed from the site for disposal. Three (3) cylinders found in the debris piles were inspected, emptied and decommissioned by Reactive Hazard Reduction, Inc. for removal from the site.

All lighting fixtures, ballasts, bulbs and mercury switches have been removed from the buildings and packaged for recycling and/or off-site disposal.

Friable asbestos has been removed from all buildings and associated piping, approximately 2,000 sq. ft of boiler wrap, 1,100 sq. ft. of floor tile and 167 ft. of pipe wrap. In addition, 68,650 sq. ft. of non-friable asbestos transite panels and roofing material have been removed and disposed of. An estimated 14,000 sq. ft. of non-friable asbestos containing roofing material associated with buildings 3 and 5 were removed and disposed of.

Three underground storage tanks, each 8,000 gallons in size, have been sampled, emptied, removed from the ground, cleaned and recycled as scrap metal. Traces of toluene and benzene were found in the liquid contained in two of the tanks and disposed of as a hazardous waste. The third tank contained residual diesel fuel and sludge which was removed from the tank for fuels blending/recycling. As per New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) technical regulations soil and infiltrating groundwater samples were collected from the excavation.

All interior building trenches, pits and sumps have been sampled, excavated and power-washed. Material removed from the pits, trenches and sumps is presently being staged on-site pending receipt of analytical results and waste profiling for off site disposal. Exterior trenches and pits associated with the furnace have been excavated, punched and filled with dense grade aggregate (DGA). In addition, the courtyard surrounding the furnace was leveled, covered with geotextile fabric and covered with approximately six (6) inches of aggregate to facilitated the movement of

asbestos removal and demolition equipment.

All building have been swept, the residues collected, segregated and sampled.

On April, 21, 2004, demolition of the buildings began, to date all nine (9) buildings have been abated of asbestos and demolished to ground level. All debris (cement block, brick, wood and metal) has been segregated and removed from the site. All interior building trenches, pits and sumps have been sampled, excavated and power-washed. Material removed from the pits, trenches and sumps is presently being staged on-site pending receipt of analytical results and waste profiling for off site disposal. Soils exposed by the demolition and removal of the loading docks and building #5 slab were sampled and found to contain concentrations of hazardous substances above New Jersey's Non-Residential Direct Contact Soil Cleanup Criteria. The exposed areas were graded and covered with approximately three (3) inches of backfill (DGA).

The wastewater treatment system, containing an 80 foot settling/oil/water separator, 10,000 gallon below ground holding tank, 5,000 gallon pump house, 60,000 gallon above ground settling tank have been emptied, cleaned, dismantled and removed from the site for recycling To date, 42,000 gallons of liquid and 15,000 cubic yards of sludge have been removed from the wastewater treatment system.

Approximately, 20 tons of tires illegally discarded on the site were prepared for disposal by removing metal rims/wheels and cutting the tires into quarters. The tires were transported from the site for recycling.

All fence repairs and the replacement of approximately 900 feet of fencing along the site boundary with the New Jersey Turnpike have been completed. Warning signs were posted at the required interval (100 feet).

Four (4) septic tanks and their associated piping were investigated and/or removed. The septic tank associated with Building #6 (the office) was found to be filled with clean sand. One of the septic tanks contained PCBs above TSCA regulated concentrations. The other two contained wastes displaying the RCRA hazardous waste characteristic of reactivity. As such, the tanks and all associated piping required removal as underground storage tanks subject to New Jersey technical regulations and requirements.

Two tankers abandoned at the site and containing solidified tar, were sampled and profiled for disposal. The void space of each tanker was filled with foam in order to facilitate off-site disposal, requiring less than 10% void space. The tankers were rigged, removed from their axles, loaded by crane onto flat bed trailers, secured and transported off-site for disposal on June 17, 2004.

On June 15, 2004, four (4) additional groundwater monitoring wells were installed, two (2) of the wells were replacement wells for wells destroyed and/or damaged as a result of illegal site activities, the other two wells were installed at locations to address new areas of concern

identified during the on-going remedial investigation (RI). During the week of July 9th the new wells were developed to prepare the wells for sampling.

On June 29, 2004, a small area of the Courtyard soil stockpile began to smolder and melt the PVC liner. The crew, working to place the final cover over the pile, observed the smoke and cut the liner from the affected area. A dark gooey organic residue was observed and removed from the pile. The fire was extinguished after turning the residue a few times with shovels. In addition to the collection and analysis of samples of the organic residue, off-site disposal of the entire pile was requested.

Sewer and water lines were been located and as per the requirements of the demolition permit the lines were terminated at the property line as per direction by the City of Newark prior to demobilization of manpower and equipment on July 7, 2004.

On July 26, 27 and 28 the first round of groundwater monitoring well samples were collected for volatile organic compound (VOC), semi-VOC, metals, PCB and pesticide analysis.

All activities have been conducted under EPA and/or NJDEP oversight.

B. Next Steps

With the exception of a few additional samples needed to prepare waste disposal profiles and the actual transport and disposal of the wastes all site activities have been completed. Security guards remain at the site.

C. Key Issues

The disposal of none hazardous, none RCRA regulated wastes containing significant concentrations of dioxins and furans remains an unresolved issue.